

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:ARLAY:MAR

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY (PER BARBIAN/BORG TELECON 2/4/76

NEA:ALATHERTONJR.

S/S:MR. BORG

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 027402

EXDIS FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, US, MO

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO FAHMY ON MOROCCO

REF: CAIRO 1205

1. PLEASE CONVEY FOLLOWING POINTS FROM ME TO FAHMY IN  
RESPONSE TO HIS EXPRESSION OF CONCERN REPORTED REFTEL:

2. THE US IS ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS IN SAHARA.  
WE RECOGNIZE POTENTIAL FOR MORE SERIOUS TROUBLE THAT IS  
CONTAINED IN PRESENT SITUATION, AND THAT IF HASSAN SUFFERED  
DEFEAT THIS COULD HAVE FAR-REACHING IMPLICATIONS.  
WE ALSO APPRECIATE DEGREE OF HASSAN'S COMMITMENT AND LIMITS  
TO HIS MANEUVERABILITY. AT SAME TIME, WE WOULD NOT WANT,  
ON BASIS OF EVIDENCE NOW AVAILABLE TO US, TO OVERSTATE EXTENT  
OF INVOLVEMENT BY SOVIETS OR VIETNAMESE DIRECTLY IN  
SAHARA DISPUTE. WE HAVE NO RPT NO EVIDENCE, FOR EXAMPLE,  
THAT VIETNAMESE ARE OPERATING SAM'S IN SAHARA.

3. PLEASE ASSURE PRESIDENT SADAT THAT WE ARE FULLY AWARE  
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OF AND SYMPATHETIC TO HASSAN'S NEED FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE.

WE ARE CONTINUING TO SUPPLY MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO MODERNIZE MOROCCO'S ARMED FORCES AND ARE URGENTLY CONSIDERING IN POSITIVE SPIRIT MOROCCAN REQUEST FOR ACCELERATED DELIVERIES.

4. I RECEIVED SPECIAL EMISSARY FROM HASSAN, FORMER PRIME MINISTER MOHAMED KARIM-LAMRANI, ON JANUARY 29. AFTER COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF SAHARA SITUATION, I ASSURED LAMRANI OF OUR SYMPATHETIC SUPPORT AND PROMISED TO COMMUNICATE FURTHER WITH KING HASSAN IN NEAR FUTURE ABOUT WHAT DIPLOMATIC STEPS WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO TAKE AND WHAT CAN BE DONE TO ACCELERATE DELIVERIES.

5. USG VOTED FOR UNGA RESOLUTION ENDORSING SPANISH-MOROCCAN-MAURITANIAN AGREEMENT ON SAHARA. WE ARE GLAD TO SEE THAT REGIONAL COUNTRIES HAVE NOW TAKEN INITIATIVES TO BRING PEACEFUL END TO DISPUTE, INCLUDING EGYPT'S SENDING OF VICE PRESIDENT MUBARAK TO COUNTRIES INVOLVED. WE BELIEVE THIS IS A SITUATION BEST SETTLED IN REGIONAL CONTEXT, WITHOUT OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE, AND HAVE MADE THIS CLEAR PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

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